

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS & PRACTICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006

*Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
Conference Room
46 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana 59620*

CALL TO ORDER

CSPAC Chair, Mr. Scott McCulloch, called the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council meeting to order on Thursday, January 19, 2006 at 8:33 A.M. CSPAC council members present were: Mr. Scott McCulloch, Chair; Dr. Douglas Reisig; Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson; Ms. Kim Warrick; and Ms. Tonia Bloom. Staff members present were: Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer for CSPAC; Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary to the Board of Public Education; and Ms. Megan Kerzman, CSPAC Administrative Assistant. The following people signed the meeting roster: Nancy Hall, OBPP; Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Linda Peterson, OPI; Darrell Rud, SAM; Claudette Morton, MSSA; Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Michael Hall, OPI; Erik Burke, MEA-MFT; and Leanne West, MSEL.

Motion: Dr. Doug Reisig moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Ms. Kim Warrick. A note was made by the Chair to move Items 8:B and 8:C to under Item 7 as well as adding Item 3:D – Leanne West from MSEL to present an update on the research project. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: Dr. Douglas Reisig moved to approve the October 6-7 CSPAC meeting minutes. Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Peter Donovan provided a review of CSPAC correspondence, which included an announcement of the University of Montana's continuing NCATE accreditation and copies of the letters sent to the recipients of the research grants. The letter confirming Mr. Donovan's appointment to the School Counseling Leadership Initiative for the P-20 committee and the NASDTEC Communicator were also included.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Mr. Scott McCulloch

Mr. Scott McCulloch welcomed Dr. Paul Rowland, Dean of Education at the University of Montana, to his new position as the Higher Education representative for CSPAC. Mr. McCulloch also congratulated Dean Rowland on the University's NCATE accreditation.

ITEM 2 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT – Mr. Steve Meloy

Mr. Meloy introduced Nancy Hall, the Board's new budget analyst and told the Council about some budget issues, namely concerning possibilities for the new building. Mr. Meloy also spoke about the reclassification of positions and the possibility of a broadband pay scale, rule hearings that will be conducted, the Quality Schools Interim Committee work, Praxis tests and "multiple-measures" assessment, dropout rates and performance-based accreditation, and the shared leadership and P-20 work including the writing proficiency. The "Quality Counts" and "Making the Connection" reports and the role of the counselor were added as a future agenda. Council members asked questions about "multiple-measures," bullying, and dropout rates.

ITEM 3 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – Mr. Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan reviewed the meetings he recently attended, especially the Western States Certification Conference he, Ms. Kim Warrick, Ms. Elizabeth Keller, and Ms. Cathy Warhank attended. Mr. Donovan presented some information presented at the WSCC showing Wyoming teacher demographics by age, which Ms. Tonia Bloom asked if the Council could look into doing for the state of Montana. Ms. Warrick spoke about her experience at the conference, which she thoroughly enjoyed, and Ms. Keller explained the usefulness of meeting others in the field from other states (networking). Mr. Donovan also endorsed the NASDTEC annual conference. The draft annual report was mentioned and a reminder given about the March meeting dates.

Leanne West of the Montana School E-Learning Consortium spoke to the Council about the draft survey questions, the progress of the project, and she answered questions the Council members had. She gave a brief overview of the scope of the project, the target audience, the outcomes they hope to find, and the directives behind the survey. Ms. West explained teacher coaching, an aspect of MSEL they are going to fully implement during this spring semester, and the method of sending out grades.

ITEM 5 (10:00) PANEL DISCUSSION – Tiered licensure system and performance-based pay scale in other states

Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Erik Burke, MEA-MFT; Randy Morris, DOA; and Bob Vogel, MTSBA, led a discussion on tiered licensure systems and performance-based pay scales in other states and the feasibility of having such systems in Montana. Ms. Keller presented data she collected on tiered systems across the nation and the compensation attached. Mr. Vogel looked at the pros and cons of tiered licensure: a pro would be that the profession could be enhanced, a con could be recruitment and retention could become harder between states. Montana currently does have a sort of tiered structure via the different classes of licensure (Class 1, Class 2, Class 5, etc.). Mr. Burke expounded on some of the benefits of a tiered licensure system, such as adopting career paths and retention of teachers by directing their careers. The possibility of peer evaluation was mentioned. Mr. Morris gave his opinion on employee compensation plans. Mr. Vogel spoke about the availability of resources for a performance-based pay scale for Montana. Dr. Rowland asked about the likelihood of coupling a tiered licensure structure with a performance-based pay scale. Mr. Meloy brought up the possibility/difficulty of different licensing fees for the different levels of certification. The Council and panel members discussed numerous possible issues relating to both tiered licensure systems and performance-based pay scales.

ITEM 4 MONTANA COMMISSION ON TEACHING COMMITTEE – Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson

Ms. Smith-Burreson gave a review of the NCTAF symposium she attended and told the Council about the upcoming NCTAF symposium, which will be held July 9-11, 2006 in St. Paul, Minnesota. Ms. Smith-Burreson stated that the symposium has been beneficial in the past. A motion was suggested for the next CSPAC meeting to approve the funds to attend this symposium.

ITEM 6 AREA OF SPECIAL PERMISSIVE COMPETENCY–Technology–ACTION ITEM

Mr. Michael Hall, OPI, briefly reminded the Council about the previously presented proposal for an Area of Special Permissive Competency in Technology and answered any questions the Council had concerning it. Ms. Claudette Morton, Montana Small Schools Alliance, spoke in favor of moving the ASPC forward.

Motion: Ms. Tonia Bloom moved to move this language forward with our endorsement to the Board of Public Education. Ms. Kim Warrick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

BREAK FOR LUNCH at 11:45 A.M.

RECONVENED at 12:50 P.M.

ITEM 7 LICENSURE AND ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Dr. Doug Reisig and Ms. Kim Warrick

Dr. Linda Peterson explained to the Council OPI's response to the idea of paraprofessional licensure. Local districts set the standards for paraprofessionals to meet, and OPI does not feel it's necessary to license paraprofessionals. OPI would not object if this issue was to come before the Board, but OPI would point out that there are alternative routes. The educational practitioner license was discussed earlier in the meeting and made an action item for the next CSPAC meeting. The Chapter 57 revision was completed approximately four years ago, so the next set of revisions should be done within the next year or so.

ITEM 8 PRE-PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Ms. Charla Bunker

Dr. Peterson presented a PEPPS update to the Council and requested time at the March 8th meeting to present the standards in their entirety. The materials will be sent to the Council staff before the meeting so the members have a chance to look over the standards prior to discussing them.

ITEM 9 VIDEO – “A Celebration of Possibility”

The Council watched a video produced by MEA-MFT for the Montana Educator Forum. The video focused on several positive aspects of Montana education.

ITEM 10 PLAN FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES

The NASDTEC Executive Board meeting that Mr. Donovan will attend is February 2-4, 2006. The NASDTEC annual conference falls in early June and Mr. Donovan will mention the fact that early June is a difficult time for educators

to attend conferences. He will also be attending the National Center for Alternative Certification conference February 8-11 as well.

ITEM 11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Evaluate progress of goals
- B. Prepare for meeting with BPE
- C. Present Annual Report to BPE
- D. “Making the Connection” report
- E. “Quality Counts” report page 2 – skills testing, PEW Report - accountability of preparatory programs for teacher success
- F. PEPPS presentation – Action item
- G. Counselors and their roles – certification, dropout rates
- H. Montana teachers by age/area of specialty (data availability)
- I. NCTAF Partners’ Symposium – Action item
- J. Education Practitioner license – Action item
- K. Social Studies broadfield
- L. Discussion of research projects
- M. Elect new chairperson and vice-chairperson
- N. Anything from the Council of Deans

ITEM 12 PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF CSPAC

Elizabeth Keller – OPI – on the topic of paraprofessional licensing: the classes of licensure are listed in state law and paraprofessionals are not on the list.

Dr. Linda Peterson – OPI – concerning the science standards, there will be a conference call Tuesday of next week (January 24). She briefly defined the difference between “scientific inquiry” and “thinking skills”.

ADJOURN

Mr. McCulloch adjourned the meeting at 1:45 P.M.

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual’s ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to the Board of Public Education as soon as possible before the meeting to allow adequate time for special arrangements. You may write or call: CSPAC, PO Box 200601, 46 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620-0601, (406) 444-6576.